

# The Journey



Your neighbourhood centre

## Quarterly Update

## End of Year - 2021

### Our Mission

*The Journey is committed to bringing hope and transformation to the Ardglen/Orenda communities, walking alongside children, youth and families as they take positive steps in their lives.*



## Thank You!

When COVID-19 swept across Canada and settled deeply into Brampton in 2020, we had no idea how long it would linger. We certainly didn't think that in December of 2021 we would still be held back by the pandemic. But, here we are on the cusp of a new year wondering what it will bring.

### Funding

We start this newsletter with a big thank you. Firstly, we thank our funders, donors and financial supporters for your continued support and faith in us and in the work we are doing with our community. Because of your ongoing and unwavering support we have been able to meet a wide range of needs.

Through the generosity of organizations like United Way Greater Toronto, Brampton and Caledon Community Fund, Zonta and private donors we have distributed over 500 grocery cards worth \$17,800 to our community since the start of the pandemic. We have distributed grocery and gift cards in the past, but nothing near this scale.



### Food

Because of our partnership with Regeneration's food bank, the generosity of Brampton Rotary, support from Peel Regional Police and many others we have distributed thousands of meals worth of food to our community. And while we have had to wind up our weekly food distribution, we are still periodically providing food for our community on special occasions such as Christmas.

### Barbecue



Speaking of food, anyone who has been around The Journey for any length of time knows how much we love to throw a barbecue. We planned and had to cancel barbecues several times throughout the pandemic, but finally on a beautiful day in October we held a COVID-19 safe barbecue. Over 50 people attended and the YMCA and Metis Nation representatives were there with information and backpacks for the teens.

On a sour note, one hour before the barbecue we discovered that someone had broken into our shed and stole both of our propane tanks. This led to a frantic trip to Canadian Tire to purchase and fill a tank. We are grateful for the patience that our community exhibited as they waited for the burgers.

## Online and Virtual

The Journey has always had a strong presence online, especially through our website and on our Facebook page. But, this past year we upped our online presence through launching a Podcast, revamping our YouTube site and posting more often on all of our platforms. Check out our Links:

[The Journey Neighbourhood Centre - Website](#)

[The Journey on Facebook](#)

[The Journey \(@thejourneycentre\) on Instagram](#)

[The Journey on YouTube](#)

[The Journey \(@TheJourneyCtr\) on Twitter](#)

[The Journey To Hope | Podcast on Spotify](#)

In addition to our social media presence we held an online Townhall addressing a variety of topics including mental health; we offered a virtual after school program, presented via Facebook Live and we are currently running a program for teens via Zoom.

## Onsite



When summer time arrived we finally opened our doors to onsite programming. We tried to run a virtual summer camp, but no one, neither children nor parents were interested, so we pivoted and offered a very successful COVID safe summer day camp.

With the success of an onsite summer camp, we decided it was time to open our doors for an onsite after school program. We have a team of five amazing college placement students who have planned and implemented a homework program for grades four to six, for three days a week. After a year of online schooling the children in our community need the extra support and the program has been very well received by both kids and parents.

## Leadership

Our community leadership program has continually progressed through the pandemic, with the latest edition for high school students. One of the most important activities that The Journey can engage in is empowering members of our neighbourhood with the knowledge and skills needed to lead themselves and others well.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, supported, attended, participated, dropped in, emailed, messaged, watched, signed up, registered, viewed, downloaded, linked and somehow, somehow connected yourself to The Journey. The past 22 months have been some of the most challenging, interesting, inspiring, frustrating, creative and fulfilling in the story that is The Journey Neighbourhood Centre.

## And Again A Note to Our Funders and Supporters

**THANK YOU** for all of your support.

We wish to acknowledge many organizations and governments for their support over this past year. Grants and donations from the United Way Greater Toronto, Government of Canada, Region of Peel, City of Brampton, United Church of Canada, Brampton and Caledon Community Foundation; Regeneration Outreach Community; North Bramalea United Church; Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; Capital Power; Red Cross; Ontario Trillium Foundation and The Gap (Cambridge) have enable us to run summer camp, fund after-school programs, distribute PPE, purchase and loan Chromebooks, distribute food and clothing, and much more!

**The Journey is funded by many great organizations including:**



## Check Out Our Website and Social Media Pages:



[www.thejourneyneighbourhoodcentre.ca](http://www.thejourneyneighbourhoodcentre.ca)



[facebook.com/thejourneyneighbourhoodcentre](https://facebook.com/thejourneyneighbourhoodcentre)



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